

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I'm tired of hearing students complain about the food, more specifically the vegetarian cooking. In meetings, students on the vegetarian food plan have complained that more money is being put into the meat dinners than the veggie food, that there is a lack of fresh fruit, vegetables, and bread, and that the food is not nutritionally balanced. At one of the meetings some of the vegetarians went so far as to ask for fresh mushrooms, homemade bread with honey and wheat germ, and fresh clams for chowder ever week. If the vegetarians are at all pleased with the food, they certainly haven't expressed their gratitude at any meeting.

In the first place Laura Foppert, the veggie cook, has had considerable experience with nutrition and the balancing of vegetarian diets. If a vegetarian should be unhappy with one of the meals offered

them, there is always the salad bar where one will find yogurt, cottage cheese, fruit salads and various vegetables which can constitute a meal. In third world countries people survive on staples such as rice (though there are some students who are afraid they won't survive meals of simple food once a day for 5 days) - I am sure the food served to us is sufficiently balanced to maintain our bodies.

Furthermore, the vegetarians complaint that equal money is not being spent for their meals is ridiculous. One of the benefits of vegetarian food is that it does not require as much capital to produce, and therefore is less costly. Also vegetarians seem to forget that the cafeteria management has put out energy and money in hiring an extra cook for the vegetarian food plan. How many other colleges go out of their way to cater to the specific wants of students?

The cafeteria has made a concerted effort to cooperate with the vegetarians; it is an obvious truth however, that most students on campus prefer to include meat in their diets. In light of this, it is unreasonable for the vegetarians, a relatively small group, to demand that extra time and money it would entail to provide homemade bread, mushrooms, clams (a strange commodity for veggies) to be spent.

I am not suggesting that the vegetarian food program be eliminated; I happen to be a vegetarian and when I eat in the cafeteria I take full advantage of the veggie meals provided. I also, however, work in the cafeteria and am aware of the unrealistic demands some of the veggies place on the food service. Because I don't want to risk losing the vegetarian meals, I suggest a more fair appraisal of the program.

Naomi Donovan

Editor's Note: Next week's *Guilfordian* will come out on Wednesday, March 29, instead of Tuesday, because the typesetters are closed for the Easter Holiday. The deadline for incoming articles is Monday, March 27, at 4:00 p.m. Happy Easter!

IRC Proposal Setback Illumines Lack of Representation

If the Senate's handling of the IRC (International Relations Club) meal plan proposal is any indication of their effectiveness, Guilford students are in trouble. Last Wednesday night's Senate discussion of this proposal may have been the most blatant display of mass confusion, misunderstanding and misrepresentation ever manufactured by a supposedly organized and authoritative body.

The IRC plan has been in front of the Senate since before Spring Break, at which time they approved the proposal. Because of student dissent the plan was "re-evaluated" during Wednesday's meeting.

Protest was largely a result of some Senator's failure to inform the student body of the proposal's implications, much less get their opinion. Although some Senators did tell their voters about IRC, those students left unenlightened were rightfully outraged. For them, the meal plan was passed, in effect; without their consent.

The Senate's attempt to reassess IRC was a dismal failure. Many solutions concerning the problem of student representation, or rather the lack of it were suggested. Unfortunately, only one ever reached a conclusion.

The Senate did manage to vote on a proposal to keep the regular grill room menu as an alternate eating plan. However, they neglected to consider the fact that the cafeteria staff had already discarded this idea as not feasible because of limited facilities.

In effect, the Senate ended half an hour of worthless debate right back at the word go. The most logical suggestion, a campus wide vote on the issue was never even voted on.

Originally the IRC meal plan, which is aimed at promoting an awareness of world hunger may have been a worthwhile proposal. Now the issue has gone far beyond its original bounds. At stake is the student's right to be informed, especially on matters concerning their welfare.

Nothing and no one is perfect, and if this was the Senate's first blooper, one might overlook it. Unfortunately this is not the case. Adequate student representation is a continuous problem at Guilford.

Every senator is required to post the minutes of each Senate meeting as they come out, a duty some tend to neglect. Nor do many call regular hall meetings, one of the most important means of keeping students abreast of campus activities.

The purpose of the Senate is to represent student interests. This duty is not being carried out. Immediate action must be taken by senators and students alike to reverse this ridiculous situation.

Maybe those few competent, unapathetic senators should read up on impeachment proceedings instead of wasting their time in the three ring circus which presently passes for student government.

-Susan Shuford



WOMEN'S ENERGY WEEKEND

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 through SUNDAY, APRIL 2

featuring

a coffeehouse with Ami Pierce

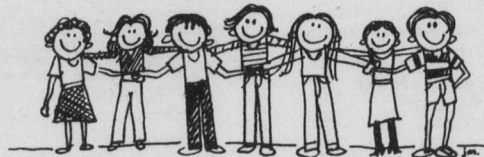
the film "Rape Culture"

poetry reading by Holly Lu Conant

and more!!!

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